



## BITTERSWEET NIGHTSHADE

*Solanum Dulcamara*

Located in wet thickets, swales, drained bogs and on stream banks throughout the Division. Can also be found in drier, waste places. Also known as Blue Bindweed, Fellenwort, Woody- and Climbing-Nightshade, Poison-, Snake- or Scarlet-Berry.

A perennial, woody vine with climbing or trailing, branched stem; to 2.5 m long. Leaves may be egg-shaped, or with one or two deeply divided basal lobes, the terminal segment being much the larger; pointed tip and somewhat heart-shaped base, stalked; 5 to 10 cm long; 2.5 to 6.5 cm wide. Flowers violet or purple, shooting star-shaped, the five petal-like lobes curved backward; 1.3 cm diameter; in small clusters on spreading or drooping stalks along the stem; blooming from mid-May to September. Fruit a red, oval berry; somewhat poisonous.

Fruit eaten by Wood Duck, Sora Rail, many song- and game-birds and small mammals; stems eaten by muskrat.



Notes